



Southwest Region/
Washington County DCFS Child Welfare
Quality Improvement Committee
Meeting Agenda and Notes
June 1, 2009

Attending: Sandy Cox, Mike Carr, Colette Zolg, Suzanne Chavira, Robert Johnson, Lynda Whitlock, Tami Fullerton, Dianne Callister, Debbie Hofhines, Michelle Patterson, Carol Washburn, Jennie Benauci

1. Welcome

- a. Welcome new members!!!
We are excited to have our new members here.

- b. Review and Approve Minutes
We reviewed May minutes and made the needed changes.
Sandy approved as amended, Tami seconded it

State QIC, every quarter touch on CPS issues.

QIC is not a community fix all, we focus on areas we can address.

Next quarterly meeting, we will talk about impact of budget cuts, talk about how it will impact agency.

Action item for Sub Committee for Cohabitation for grandparents, etc. Patricia, Shirley and others to be assigned.

2. Placement Stability

- a. Kinship placement stability data - Robert
It looked like we were doing better then in the second period, it looked like we were slipping. We need to look at why the numbers were slipping. Robert is still trying to get the data. The data should show trend, it goes from 2004-2009. Page four looks at the percentage of children that have been placed with a relative. The numbers have been increasing due to the Adam Walsh laws.

Protocol of preliminary placements. Workers talk w/ kin about what things may hit on BCI, how far back, etc. When they get a generic letter that they didn't pass, then they can choose whether to pursue it or not. There is only a small number that don't pass. Workers ask if they've been convicted of a felony and have they ever been found responsible for child abuse. Depending on the offense, they

can request a review. DCFS can do a preliminary placement if they answer yes if approved through a comprehensive review. We see a lot of out of state placement which goes through ICPC and can take a lot of time.

3. Substance Abuse
 - a. Follow-Up: Did members see the video? Action Item: Tom Kelly will resend the video to everyone's email.
 - b. DEC Conference Aug 5 and 6 at Westminster College. Credits are being offered. Shirley Owen has pamphlets available on the training.
4. Employee Retention
5. Media/Public Relations Events/Issues & QIC Member Recruitment
 - a. Success Stories of Youth served by WCYCC-
 - b. Consumers on team: Suggestion of Duane Dicky, he is a teacher at Pineview but he is away in Europe at this time.
Sara Urqhart, Debbie has her number and will talk to her.
Mike Carr suggested Collin Metsker who has been a counselor at Dixie High but now has a district position that deals with mental health. Mike will get with him.
We could invite Chris Nelson, Debbie will talk to her.

We need to keep in mind if we have consumers on our team we need to be sensitive regarding how we talk about our issues.

7. Other Items
Presentation by Suzanne Chavira re: In-Home Services Level of Care.
DCFS does protective in-home services and the St. George Office is looking at doing a pilot program with more intensive services.

When there is a referral, CPS does an investigation and determines what services are needed. A lot of the families are on the fence. These intensified services are designed to keep the children in the home with intense services being offered. We hold meetings with CPS, AAG, GAL and supervisors to determine whether the children should be removed and the intensity of the services needed. We use our safety model which determines how much of a risk the children are of removal. Three things are looked at: Threats of harm, protective capacity, and child vulnerabilities.

We have come up with a client contract for the families to agree upon or not. For the first 90 days of protective services they usually drag their feet. This contract helps to elevate that. They need to complete intensive IPS services within 90 days, if not successful

the children would more than likely be removed. If the family is successful then their case could go to regular PSS.

The family will have two home visits per week in which the children must be present for one.

Clients will make at least one call to their CW per week.
Family will attend CFTM, client will adhere to all court orders.
At the end of 30 days their case will be assessed.
In the second month and third month the home visits will decrease.
At the end of 90 days, a CFTM will be done and recommendations made to the court.

Services: The biggest thing with services is drug court, a lot of clients would be referred. It is expensive but if they are having a lot of financial issues we can help, but they really need to be accountable. Substance abuse. Safety plan. Crisis shelter. Tracking for the older children including school. DV counseling. Help with protective orders. Drug testing through DCFS, trackers or treatment provider. Peer parenting, AA & NA groups, Dove Ctr, Medicaid, DWS, Family Support Center, TLC, Team Raw which is the outreach program and tracking would be included with that. New Frontiers for wrap around services. These are some of the services that can be offered.

We are looking at July 1st to implement services. This is preliminary. Robert explained that once the program is designed we will hold a meeting with the key partners for feed back then hold meeting with judge and appointed attorneys to explain the program to them. Then we will start making the adjustments to the in-home team. We need feed back from the QIC group in two weeks then two weeks with the others so we are looking at August 1st.

Suzanne feels the key to this program is the initial assessment of the family, we will look at the past history and how receptive they will be and their ability and willingness to parent. Desert Haven was created to help single parents to address their issues and still keep their children with them. This is similar but we keep the family in their homes. We feel that within 30 days we will know how they will do. Let Suzanne know of any other services she can add to her list. If you have any feed back please get it back to us within the next week or two.

Debbie questioned as to our rate for kids coming back to care and parents re-offending. Action Item: Robert will get quarterly data out and we will discuss.

8. We have decided we will not have a meeting in July or December.
We will not hold a meeting July 6, 2009.
Next meeting will be held August 3rd, 2009.